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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/729,631	12/05/2003	John F. Shanley	CM15001USCNT17	1114
27777 7590 02/10/2009 PHILIP S. JOHNSON JOHNSON & JOHNSON ONE JOHNSON & JOHNSON PLAZA NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ 08933-7003			EXAMINER BLANCO, JAVIER G	
			ART UNIT 3774	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 02/10/2009	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

**NOTICE OF IMPROPER REQUEST FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

Application No.
10/729,631

Applicant(s)
SHANLEY ET AL.

Art Unit
3700

Date Mailed:

The request for continued examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 filed on 12/08/08 is improper for reason(s) indicated below: See attachment.

1. ☐ Continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to an application for a design patent. Applicant may wish to consider filing a continuing application under 37 CFR 1.53(b) or a CPA under 37 CFR 1.53(d). An RCE cannot be treated as a CPA.
2. ☐ Continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to an application that was filed before June 8, 1995. Applicant may wish to consider filing a continuing application under 37 CFR 1.53(b).
3. ☐ Continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to an application unless prosecution in the application is closed. If the RCE was accompanied by a reply to a non-final Office action, the reply will be entered and considered under 37 CFR 1.111. If the RCE was not accompanied by a reply, the time period set forth in the last Office action continues to run from the mailing date of that action.
4. ☐ The request was not filed before payment of the issue fee, and no petition under 37 CFR 1.313 was granted. If this application has not yet issued as a patent, applicant may wish to consider filing either a petition under 37 CFR 1.313 to withdraw this application from issue, or a continuing application under 37 CFR 1.53(b).
5. ☐ The request was not filed before abandonment of the application. The application was abandoned, or proceedings terminated on _____. Applicant may wish to consider filing a petition under 37 CFR 1.137 to revive this abandoned application.
6. ☐ The request was not accompanied by the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) as required by 37 CFR 1.114. Since the application is not under appeal, the time period set forth in the final Office action or notice of allowance continues to run from the mailing date of that action or notice.
7. ☐ The request was not accompanied by a submission as required by 37 CFR 1.114. Since the application is not under appeal, the time period set forth in the final Office action or notice of allowance continues to run from the mailing date of that action or notice.

Note: A continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 CFR 1.53(d) cannot be filed in a utility or plant application. A CPA filed in a utility or plant application that has a filing date **on or after June 8, 1995** will be treated as an RCE under 37 CFR 1.114. The request for a CPA in the instant application, however, has been treated as an improper RCE for the reason(s) indicated above.

A copy of this Notice MUST be returned with the reply.

Direct any questions concerning this notice to

/Ruby Johnson/, Technology Center 3700

Telephone Number: (571)272-4359

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The request was not accompanied by a proper submission for an application after appeal but before decision by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences. Since the application is under appeal and the submission is an improper submission, the appeal is withdrawn. The application is being forwarded to the examiner to treat in accordance with MPEP 1215.01. See MPEP 706.07(h)(X).

MPEP 706.07(h)(X)(B) in part:

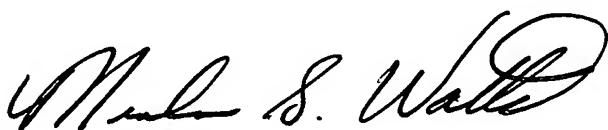
B .Improper RCE

The appeal will be withdrawn even if the RCE is improper. If an RCE is filed in an application after appeal to the Board but the request does not include the fee required by 37 CFR 1.17(e) or the submission required by 37 CFR 1.114, or both, the examiner should treat the request as an improper RCE and withdraw the appeal pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114(d). If the submission is not considered to be a *bona fide* attempt to provide a complete reply to the last outstanding Office action (e.g., an IDS only), the submission will be treated as an improper submission or no submission at all under 37 CFR 1.114(c) (thus the request is an improper RCE). See subsection VI.

Upon withdrawal of the appeal, the application will be treated in accordance with MPEP § 1215.01 based on whether there are any allowed claims or not. The proceedings as to the rejected claims are considered terminated. Therefore, if no claim is allowed, the application is abandoned. Claims which are allowable except for their dependency from rejected claims will be treated as if they were rejected. See MPEP § 1215.01. If there is

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at least one allowed claim, the application should be passed to issue on the allowed claim(s). If there is at least one allowed claim but formal matters are outstanding, applicant should be given a shortened statutory period of one month or thirty days (whichever is longer) in which to correct the formal matters. Form paragraphs 7.42.10-7.42.14 should be used as appropriate.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Michael S. Watts". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "W" at the end.